

AMENDED CLAIM SET:

1. (cancelled).
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the conjugated diene rubber - silica mixture (A) contains 25 to 200 parts by weight of silica with respect to 100 parts by weight of conjugated diene rubber (a).
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the amount of silica contained in the conjugated diene rubber -silica mixture (A) is 80 wt% or smaller with respect to the entire toluene insoluble components in the conjugated diene rubber -silica mixture (A).
4. (cancelled).
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the glass transition temperature of the conjugated diene rubber (a) is -80 to -15°C.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the difference in absolute value between the glass transition temperature of conjugated diene rubber (b) and that of conjugated diene rubber (a) is 10 to 95°C.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the conjugated diene rubber (a) comprises a rubber selected from natural rubber, styrene butadiene copolymer rubber and acrylonitrile butadiene copolymer rubber, and the conjugated diene rubber (b) comprises a rubber selected from natural rubber, styrene butadiene copolymer rubber, polybutadiene rubber and polyisoprene rubber.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the conjugated diene rubber (a) is a styrene butadiene copolymer rubber and the conjugated diene rubber (b) is a styrene butadiene copolymer rubber or polybutadiene rubber.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the conjugated diene rubber (b) contains 1 to 200 parts by weight of filler with respect to 100 parts by weight of the conjugated diene rubber (b).

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the weight ratio of the conjugated diene rubber (a) to the conjugated diene rubber (b) is 95:5 to 5:95.

11. (previously presented) A crosslinkable silica-containing conjugated diene rubber composition comprising the silica-containing conjugated diene rubber composition as set forth in claim 15, and further a crosslinking agent.

12. (original) A molding made by molding and crosslinking the crosslinkable silica-containing conjugated diene rubber composition as set forth in claim 11.

13. (currently amended) A method for the production of a silica-containing conjugated diene rubber composition, said method comprising:

co-coagulating an aqueous dispersion of the conjugated diene rubber (a) having a glass transition temperature of -120 to 0°C and an aqueous dispersion of silica having a specific surface area (S_{CTAB}) measured by absorption of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) of 40 to 300 m²/g in the presence of cationic polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 1000 to 1,000,000 to obtain a co-coagulated mass;

heating said co-coagulated mass to 50 to 220°C to obtain a conjugated diene rubber - silica mixture (A) containing at least 30 wt% of toluene insoluble components; and

blending a conjugated diene rubber (b) with the conjugated diene rubber - silica mixture (A); said rubber (b) having a glass transition temperature such that the difference in absolute value between the glass transition temperature of rubber (b) and that of rubber (a) is 3 to 100°C.

14. (cancelled).

15. (previously presented) A silica-containing conjugated diene rubber composition obtained by the method of claim 13.